

Application No. 10/689,931
Amendment A dated August 25, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed March 25, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [028] with the following amended paragraph:

[028] The calibration devices 210, 220, 230 each include a hardware device 203, 213, 223, a software module 205, 215, 225, a file 206, 216, 226, a data filter 207, 217, 227, and an archive 208, 218, 228. The hardware device 203, 213, 223 and the software module 205, 215, 225 could also be combined together to simply form a module. The hardware device 203, 213, ~~225~~ 223 and software module 205, 215, 225 are substantially similar to the hardware and software components described in reference to Figure 1. Essentially, the hardware device 203, 213, 223 represents the actual calibration device which physically interacts with the component 204, 214, 224. The software module ~~205, 215, 225~~ 206, 216, 226 interfaces with the hardware device 203, 213, 223 to generate data based upon the interaction between the hardware device 203, 213, 223 and the component 204, 214, 224. Unlike the software components illustrated in Figure 1, the software module 205, 215, 225 also interfaces with an internal file 206, 216, 226 rather than an external shared file. The file 205, 215, 225 stores the data from the software module 205, 215, 225 in a comma-delineated text format. The data filter 207, 217, 227 periodically transfers the contents of the file 205, 215, 225 to the database 240, which is shared between all of the calibration devices 210, 220, 230. The process performed by the file ~~205, 215, 225~~ 206, 216, 226 of storing and then transferring its contents to the database 240 is referred to as a "circular buffer" technique. The data filter 207, 217, 227 also archives the data from the file 206, 216, 226 into the archive or archive storage device 208, 218, 228 before it is deleted. The archive 208, 218, 228 is a storage device such as a hard disk or a write-able optical storage device. This "distributed archiving" technique allows each calibration device 210, 220, 230 to independently store a copy of the raw data for a certain length of time. The archiving scheme includes deleting old outdated data that is unlikely to be used again and storing the current set of data. This configuration ensures that no data is ever lost or corrupted due to collisions between multiple calibration devices attempting to write to a shared file. The data filter 207, 217, 227 performs numerous functions without input from a user interface thereby acting like an "intelligent agent".